

IT'S A DRAGGING WAR

But Otis Says the Insurgents are Growing More Hopeless.

THE END IS NOT FAR OFF

The Troops in Luzon are so Disposed That the Enemy Will Be Cut Off in Small Squads or Driven Into a General Engagement Which Will Quickly Bring Hostilities to an End.

Manila, May 8.—The army gunboats, Laguna de Bay and Cavdonga, under command of Captain Grant, which started up the San Fernando river for Guagua yesterday to establish a base of supplies for the troops engaged in the northern campaign, returned today. Major-General MacArthur having failed to connect with the expedition. The gunboats found the rebels entrenched at Sosomon and Guagua on the water fronts of the town. The vessels steamed past the works, shelling the occupants and driving them out. Landing parties from the boats entered both towns, capturing at Sosomon a Spanish captain in uniform who was ostensibly a prisoner in the hands of the insurgents, and also a native officer.

Arriving at Guagua, the town and a small gunboat were found to be burning and the natives evacuating the place in consequence of the bombardment. At Sosomon a landing party captured a number of Filipino flags and a quantity of arms, chiefly bolos and bows and arrows, and beside a lot of band instruments which the men played as they marched back to the boats. Captain Grant's expedition will probably return up the San Fernando river after being reinforced.

THE PRESENT SITUATION.

Washington, May 8.—The war department received a cablegram from General Otis giving the situation in the Philippines, parts of which have been permitted by the war department to be made public. The dispatch says: "The situation is as follows: Lawton is at Maasin and Balang with scouting parties to the north and east. MacArthur is at San Fernando. The population of the country between Manila and the northern points held by the troops are returning home. They appear cheerful and contented. Army gunboats' operation on the river have cleared the country west of MacArthur of insurgents. Signs of the insurgents' weakness are more apparent daily."

WASHINGTON IS PLEASED.

Washington, May 8.—War department officials are more encouraged over the condition in Manila. The report of General Otis indicates that the American troops are well disposed. It is evident that the insurgents operating in the swamps and jungles east of General MacArthur have been very annoying, but that the army gunboats made it too hot for them to remain. General Lawton appears to be pushing northward.

A BOLD FILIPINO TRICK.

Manila, May 8.—The Filipinos surprised the United States forces at San Fernando with a daring trick yesterday. A railway train with an engine at each end was run almost to the American outposts and in plain sight of the town. Before it could be reached a gang of natives sprang from the train, tore up several lengths of the railway track, boarded the train again and steamed away so quickly that there was no opportunity to capture the raiders.

The Nebraska regiment is asking for temporary relief from duty. Only 375 men of the regiment are left at the front.

A CALL TO DEMOCRATS.

The National Committee Will Meet on May 25

Milwaukee, Wis., May 8.—National Committee member Edward C. Wall today received notice of a conference of the democratic national committee at the Planters Hotel at St. Louis, Mo., May 25. It was issued by ex-Governor Stone of Missouri and J. C. Johnson, Kansas. It is understood that the meeting is for the purpose of discussing the political situation and to map out the work of the next campaign.

MR. BARRETT'S PLAIN TALK.

Discusses the Far East Before London Chamber of Commerce.

London, May 8.—Mr. John Barrett, formerly United States minister to Siam, addressed a large and representative gathering of members of the chamber of commerce today on the condition and possibilities of the far east. Mr. Albert G. Sandeman, president of the chambers, presided.

Among those present were several members of the house of commons. Mr. Jameson, British consul general at Shanghai, the president of the Manchester chamber of commerce and the Hon. Robert P. Porter.

Mr. Barrett candidly asserted that the influence of America would join that of Great Britain in the preservation of commercial interests in the far east, not through any sentiment of race or blood, but because of the fact that thereby America would be enabled to secure a portion of Great Britain's trade. At the conclusion of his address Mr. Barrett received a hearty vote of thanks, the gentleman proposing the vote remarking that he had not heard any American speak so plainly before.

Mr. Barrett will sail for New York from Southampton on the American line steamer New York, which leaves on Monday next.

A PHOENIX BIDDER.

Secured the Indian School Building at Sacaton.

Washington, May 8.—(Special.)—Bids for the construction of a school building and the putting in of a sewer system at the Pima agency in Arizona were opened today and the contracts ordered awarded. The building contract is given to C. Campbell of Phoenix for \$9,800. The sewer contract is awarded to Dennis Jordan of San Francisco for \$6,116.

DEWEY'S SUCCESSOR

When He Feels That He Can Be Spared in the Philippines.

Washington, May 8.—The navy department has selected a successor to Admiral Dewey to command the Asiatic station. Orders were issued today detaching Rear-Admiral Watson from the command of the Mare Island navy yard and ordering him to report to Admiral Dewey at Manila to relieve that officer when he feels that he can be spared.

A TEXAS WATER SPOUT.

Dallas, Tex., May 8.—A report from Benjamin Knox county, says: A terrific storm, approaching a water spout, swept over the country about thirty miles west, and the family of George Humphrey, composed of four, was drowned by an overflow of the Brazos river. Other disasters are believed to have happened in the Pan Handle, but that section is without wire communication.

AN ITALIAN STRIKE.

New York, May 8.—Several hundred Italians at work on the Jerome Park reservoir went on a strike today. The contractor asked for assistance and 100 policemen went to the reservoir.

CONQUERED YELLOW JACK.

The Fever Has Not Appeared in Havana This Season.

Havana, May 8.—The continuing absence of yellow fever from this city has astonished even the sanitary department. Resident physicians believe that the steps taken since the American occupation have made it possible that the disease will be checked, and they look forward to a summer of comparative immunity.

CHINESE IN CUBA

The Exclusion Act May Not Be Extended to the Island.

Washington, May 8.—The Chinese legation here has made a strong protest to the state department against the extension of the Chinese exclusion act to Cuba, this having been one result of a recent executive order extending the immigration laws of the United States to Cuba and Porto Rico. Mr. Yung Kwai, an attaché of the legation, said today that the legation had made such a protest and that in view of the fact that the Chinese would make the best kind of citizens for the settlement of Cuba, he believed that the order would be modified so as not to exclude his countrymen.

"The dowager empress," he added, "has recently granted the most liberal protection to Americans and wishes to become more closely allied with America, and this country will be going against its own interests if it refuses to meet China half way."

Secretary Hay later said that the matter was under consideration by the state department.

WESTERN MINERS.

Salt Lake, Utah, May 8.—The sixth annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners met this morning. No business was transacted.

PORTO RICO GOVERNOR

San Juan, Porto Rico, May 8.—Brigadier General George W. Davis, who has been appointed to succeed Major General Guy V. Henry as military governor of Porto Rico, arrived here today on board the United States transport McPherson.

LOWENSTEIN'S END

A Passport From Aguinaldo Found in His Pocket.

Circumstances in Connection With the Killing of the Nobleman Give Rise to a Suspicion That He Was a Terrorist.

San Francisco, May 8.—C. S. Bradford of this city has just returned from the Philippines and gives an interesting account of the death of Prince Ludwig von Lowenstein, who was killed during the battle of Calocan on Sunday, March 26.

A party of civilians, among whom were Mr. Bradford and the prince, was observing the progress of the battle from a stone bridge over the Malabon river, when an orderly appeared, warning the sight-seers of the danger of their position. The orderly then addressed himself to the prince personally, saying: "I am speaking to you particularly. You have already given us some trouble by hanging around the firing line and we will have no more of it."

The prince and a companion disappeared into a clump of timber. This timber later became the scene of some active work and the Oregon soldiers were ordered to fire volleys into it and to perforate several houses. In one of these houses Prince Lowenstein had secreted himself. A bullet fired by an Oregonian entered the right side of the prince, severing his intestines and killing him instantly. Mr. Bradford with one or two others, took charge of the remains.

A search of the body revealed among other things a passport signed by Aguinaldo granting the prince permission to enter the lines of the rebels at will, and instructing the insurgent officers to give him any aid and comfort he might desire. The prince was at one time interpreter for General Miller, but was found untrustworthy.

NEARLY A MILLION.

Customs Receipts in Porto Rico Under American Occupation.

Washington, May 8.—Acting Secretary McKeljohn gave out today the customs receipts of Porto Rico beginning in August, 1898, and ending April 15, 1899, as follows: For the last four months of 1898 \$497,434.50; for January, 1899, \$119,660.58; for February, \$90,644.15; for March, \$142,810.91, and from April 1 to April 15, 1899, \$52,611.84. Total for seven months and two weeks \$993,161.98.

ARMY OFFICER KILLED.

Nantucket, Mass., May 8.—Major I. C. Overman, U. S. A., retired, was instantly killed by falling from a staging on which he was at work at his summer home here today.

HEGELSBURG'S SWINDLING.

New York, May 8.—The police of this city said today that the total sum involved in the swindling which Dr. Hegelsburg, now under arrest in Los Angeles, is accused, will reach \$100,000. Dr. Hegelsburg was president of the Investors' Guaranty and Trust company, with offices in this city. It is alleged the company did a "blind pool" business in stocks.

THE TALK OF PEACE.

Does Not Hinder General Preparation for War.

London, May 8.—The Duke of Cambridge opened Mrs. Kralffy's Greater Britain exhibition at Earls Court today in the presence of a distinguished company, which included the representatives of several colonial governments. In the course of his speech the Duke of Cambridge emphasized the fact that he and other members of the royal family desired to do everything to strengthen the ties between Great Britain and the colonies. His grace said that it was a singular fact that while all talk of peace, the nations are going ahead with armaments.

SHERMAN WANTS NO OFFICE.

Cincinnati, O., May 8.—Harry R. Probasco, a relative of John Sherman, received a letter from the former secretary of state saying: "You are entirely right in supposing I have no thought of being nominated or elected governor of Ohio. I do not want office."

MUST PAY THE TAX.

Emigrants to Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines.

Washington, May 8.—Acting Secretary McKeljohn, in response to an inquiry, made the announcement today that the capitation tax imposed by the laws and regulations issued by the treasury department, August 16, 1898, and which tax is imposed at all

ports of entry upon immigrants coming to the United States, equally applies to all immigrants applying for entry at the ports of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines.

Circular No. 13, issued by the secretary April 14, last, reads as follows: "The laws and regulations governing immigration to the United States are hereby declared to be in effect in the territory under government by the military forces of the United States and collector of customs are directed to enforce said laws and regulations until the establishment of immigration stations in said territory. All money collected under this order must be deposited and accounted for as prescribed for custom collections."

DEMOCRATS AT ODDS

Bitter Factional Fight in the State of Alabama.

Montgomery, Ala., May 8.—Alabama is now the storm center of southern politics, and there is a factional fight on in the democratic party that exceeds the famous Kolb-Jones contest of 1890. The present governor of the state Joseph F. Johnston, has stirred the citizens in the last few weeks as they have never stirred politically before, and he has lined up two bitter and determined factions in as heated a struggle as ever witnessed in the arena of Alabama politics.

The constitutional convention question has split the democracy. At its last session the general assembly of Alabama passed a bill submitting to the people the question of whether or not a convention should be held. The bill provided for delegates to be elected at the election which passed on the convention question. When the democrats met to nominate delegates from the state at large a resolution was adopted making the holding of a constitutional convention a party question. It appeared also that Palmer and Buckner democrats had captured the party.

Soon after the adjournment of that convention Governor Johnston, the free silver leader, threw down the gauntlet that brought up the wrangle. He issued a proclamation convening the legislature of Alabama in extraordinary session to repeal the constitutional act. The fight now on, therefore is for or against repeal, Johnston or anti-Johnston. The state executive committee of the democratic party met and passed, by a small majority, resolutions favoring the holding of a convention, and the anti-Johnston democrats apply the epithet of "bolters" to the governor who declines to be whipped into line. The county committees are acting on the question, and of the number of them heard from, fifteen in all, ten have endorsed Johnston and repeal, and five have condemned the governor and declared for a constitutional convention to disfranchise the "nigger." The other county committees will act in about the same proportion as for and against the governor.

The white counties, with but few exceptions, and some of the black belt counties are with the governor. The leading newspapers of the state are for the convention and are bitter in their denunciation of Governor Johnston's course. The present fight is very much like the old Kolb-Jones campaign of 1890-92, when the press was against Kolb and Kolb carried the white counties by majorities amounting to 2,500 in cause the black belt was solidly against him—that is, the manipulators of it were.

If the legislature fails to repeal the convention act and the question go before the people in July, Governor Johnston will win, for he will carry the white counties against the convention and will have few black counties on his side. Governor Johnston has another advantage. He is governor, and he can order his secretary of state not to certify returns from black belt counties, where the votes may be counted up for the convention to enormous majorities. The governor has courage and he is in this fight to carry his point. He has letters from a majority of the members of the general assembly favoring repeal and the assembling of the legislature for that purpose, but what the results of the session will be no one can foretell.

Never in the history of Alabama has such a lobby been organized as that arranged by the advocates of the constitutional convention. Governor Johnston has warned members of the legislature who favor repeal that open threats and boasts have been made to obtain favorable results by the use of a big corruption fund.

The speaker of the house and the president of the senate are against repeal, and the bill to repeal the act will have a hard road to travel. The two factions of the party are far enough apart now, but when the legislative session is over it is probable that the chasm will be too wide to bridge until several years have passed.

The populist members of the legislature are for repeal, as are the two republicans in the house. The populists and republicans are in sympathy with the governor and look upon the wrangling of the democrats with no small degree of satisfaction.

HE HAS QUIT TALKING

Miles Declines to Comment Upon Adverse Report.

He Says Only That in Making His Original Charges He Was Actuated by Motives of Consideration for Health of the Troops.

Washington, May 8.—"The president is the commander-in-chief of the army and my superior. He has approved the findings of the war court of inquiry. Therefore I have no comment to make. It would be an unsoldierly act were I to do so."

With these words General Miles replied to a Star reporter who saw him for a moment today in regard to the probable action he would take in view of the adverse report of the court.

"Will you formulate a protest to the president?" was the next question.

"I will have nothing to say; no, sir," replied the general.

"Will you inspire a congressional investigation?"

"No, sir; I will not talk upon the subject."

"Do you believe congress will rectify the matter?"

"I do not know what congress will do, nor have I any means of knowing in advance what verdict the result of an investigation might develop. I have no comment, criticism or statement to make in this matter, and you may take it as certain that any alleged interviews or intimations to the contrary said to come from me are wholly and unqualifiedly false. I was and am now actuated solely by consideration of the health, lives and integrity of the army. My duty is done."

BUFFALO DOCK STRIKE.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 8.—There is no change in the situation along the water front this morning. Work at the elevators is proceeding quietly. Contractors are making strenuous efforts to secure sufficient men from out of town to man all the elevators. They claim they will be in full operation on Wednesday.

ONLY \$5,000,000 MORE.

New York, May 8.—A messenger from the French embassy at Washington today delivered at the National City bank two additional treasury warrants of \$5,000,000 drawn against the sub-treasury. This makes a total of \$15,000,000 of the \$20,000,000, which the United States agreed to pay Spain for the Philippines.

NO FILIPINOS WANTED.

San Francisco, May 8.—United States Immigration Commissioner North has refused to permit the landing of ten native Filipinos, who arrived here a few days ago on the steamer City of Peking. The natives are under contract to exhibit in the New York museum, and are considered contract laborers.

GAVE UP THE UNION.

Alexandria, Ind., May 8.—Work was resumed in full today at the American Plate Glass works. Neither side will state the conditions on which over 600 men resumed work, but it is understood the men abandoned the union.

A FORMER NOTABLE DEAD.

Belmontaine, O., May 8.—Judge William Lawrence, ex-comptroller of the treasury, died today.

NEW SPANISH MINISTER

Washington, May 8.—The state department is informed that the Duke of Arcos will present his credentials to the president early in June, and that Hon. Belamy Storer will be received by the queen regent at the same time.

FIRST, FIRE, THEN FLOOD.

Westport, Gl., May 8.—A report reached here of the death of several negroes in a storm which swept over Chambers county last night. All wires are down.

NEW ORLEANS FAIR.

New Orleans, May 8.—The industrial fair opened today with an immense throng on the grounds. It was made the occasion of a peace jubilee, celebrating the successful close of the war with Spain.

NOT TO FRANCE'S DETRIMENT.

Statement At Russia's Request on Anglo-Russian Agreement.

Paris, May 8.—At the request of the Russian government, M. Delcasse, minister of foreign affairs, today communicated to the press an official denial of the statements made in an article in the London Times that the Anglo-Russian agreement was to France's detriment. The Echo de Paris expresses hope

that the official arrangement between Russia and Great Britain differs materially from the present interpretation of it, "otherwise," the paper says, "our interests in Abyssinia and the far east will be held cheaply by the Muscovites."

DEFENDER'S CREW AT BRISTOL.

Work of Renovating the Famous Yacht Being Pushed.

Bristol, R. I., May 8.—The crew of the Defender, including thirty-three men, nearly all of whom are Scandinavians, in charge of Captain Darius Rhodes and Mate Leonard Miller, arrived here from New York today. It is not known how long it will take to complete the work on the yacht. She will be given another coat of white paint and there is still considerable work to be done on the mast and spars.

THE MAID OF ORLEANS.

Orleans, France, May 8.—The annual celebration of the deliverance of Orleans by Joan of Arc, was held here today with the customary ceremonies.

A NEW RACE TRACK.

San Francisco, May 8.—At Redwood City today articles of incorporation of the Western Turf association were placed on record. The site of the proposed new track is thirteen miles from this city. The greater part of the stock has been taken by San Francisco capitalists.

HOSTILE TO MEAT

The Reichstag Committee Prepares a Bill Against American Interest.

Berlin, May 8.—It is authoritatively stated that a committee of the reichstag to which was referred the meat inspection bill which was substantially agreed upon by the imperial cabinet and United States Ambassador White, reported against the measure and in favor of a bill so hostile to American interests that the government will probably refuse to sanction it.

DISCOURAGED OFFICIALS.

Washington, May 8.—The Berlin cable indicating the failure of the proposed legislation for the abatement of the restrictions on the importation of American meats and meat products into Germany, was received here with grave apprehensions. It is beginning to suggest itself here to officials that it will be impossible to secure a fair treatment of American meats and that the German government will be unable to command the necessary strength in the reichstag to correct the discriminations from which our meats have suffered so long. The results of the failure of the meat bill are likely to be much broader than are commonly supposed, for it may be stated that our government regards the projected relief of our meat from oppressive discrimination as absolutely essential to the negotiation of any reciprocal arrangement.

TRIAL OF A MURDERER.

Pittsburg, Pa., May 8.—The jury to try Bertha Belsheim for the murder of her mother at their home in Allegheny, on October 2, last, was completed this afternoon and the trial proceeded.

HE NAMES HIM

The Man Who Tried to Bribe Ohio's Attorney General.

Columbus, O., May 8.—Attorney General Monnett this afternoon filed in the supreme court his answer to the motion of the Standard Oil company, requesting that he designate the persons alluded to in his statement that he had been approached with offers of bribes to dismiss suits against the company, and names Charles E. Squires, formerly of Cleveland and now of New York, as the party through whom the alleged proposition was made.

GENERAL MANNING DEAD.

Sandusky, O., May 8.—General Manning, commandant of the Ohio soldiers' home, died this afternoon.

PRISONERS AT WARDNER.

Wallace, Idaho, May 8.—Heavy rains today made life unpleasant for seven hundred prisoners in the stockade at Wardner. Deputy marshals are still scouring the district picking up occasional suspects.

BASE BALL.

Where Games Were Won and Lost Yesterday.

At Philadelphia—Philadelphia-Baltimore game postponed on account of rain.

At Chicago—Chicago, 8; Cleveland, 7.

At New York—New York, 6; Washington, 2.

At Boston—Boston, 5; Brooklyn, 0. At Pittsburg—Pittsburg, 8; Louisville, 5.

A CRUMBLING WALL

Oriental Darkness Being Penetrated by Western Light.

COMMERCIAL CHINA IN 1899

Recent Statement Relative to the English-Russian Agreement With Respect to Trade in Certain Parts of the Celestial Kingdom. Important Edicts Removing the Barrier of Ages.

Washington, May 8.—(Special.)—Recent statements indicating an agreement between the English and Russian governments touching their future course with reference to the trade of certain sections of China lends interest to a publication just issued by the treasury bureau of statistics entitled, "Commercial China in 1899." This document, as its name indicates, presents a careful survey of present commercial conditions in China, showing location of railway lines, navigable waterways now opened to the commerce of the world, the treaty ports which are the commercial doorways to China, steamship and cable lines, and the imports and exports in detail during the past quarter of a century, showing the growth of demand for each of the important articles, the principal countries from which they have been drawn, and the growth of the commerce between China and the United States, and especially the sales by the people of the United States to those of China.

A part of this publication which discusses the commerce of the Yangtze Kiang and West River valleys is of especial interest at this moment because of the recently published assertion that an agreement has been made between the British and Russian governments by which the latter confines its commercial ambitions for the present at least to northern China. The valleys of the Yangtze Kiang and West rivers, which occupy central and southern China, are shown by this report to be the great commercial section of the empire. Not only so, but their importance has been greatly increased by recent events. One of these events is an agreement by the Chinese government that no section of the Yangtze valley shall be "alienated" to any foreign government so far as relates to trade privileges, while another of equal importance is the opening of the West river to the commerce of all nations free from any "alienation" or special privileges to any. That the Yangtze and West River valleys are by far the most important part of China from a commercial standpoint is quite apparent. Two-thirds of the foreign commerce of China passes through Shanghai, located at the mouth of the Yangtze, which is the Mississippi river of the empire proper and penetrating a fertile, productive and densely populated area. Next in importance to Shanghai from a commercial standpoint are Canton and the British possession of Hong Kong, which lies adjacent, both of them being practically at the mouth of West river, which is also an extremely important waterway and route of commerce to the interior.

A recent edict by the Chinese government adds very greatly to the importance of these two rivers. This edict permits foreign steam vessels to ply upon the navigable water of practically all inland streams, this privilege being extended to small steam vessels which may go to the very head of navigation in all treaty port provinces. Another edict recently issued permits foreigners to visit all parts of the empire for business and trade purposes.

The importance of these three agreements by which the commerce of the Yangtze and West River valleys remain open to all nations desiring to compete for it; second, by which foreign steam vessels may penetrate for business purposes to the very head of navigation upon these and other streams, carrying with them foreigners for pleasure or business purposes, coupled with the further fact that foreign manufacturers and the machinery which manufactures them are more freely admitted than formerly, can scarcely be overrated.

Commenting upon the rapid development of events in China, the publication of the bureau of statistics says: "The more rapid development of the privileges of foreigners in China and of the introduction of modern commercial methods dates from the treaty of Shimonesaki, made between China and Japan in 1895, at the close of the war between those nations, and followed by a commercial treaty in 1896. The important features of these treaties were that they opened the waters of the principal rivers and

(Continued on Eighth Page.)